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OL. II

STRATHCONA, ALBERTA, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1908

No. 95

## Bridge Over Calgary's Red River Street Railway

Winnipeg, Aug. 31.—It is becoming somewhat problematical whether the idea of building a joint railway and traffic bridge over the Red River at the foot of Lombard street will ever be carried into effect. Present indications are that the municipalities of Winnipeg and St. Boniface will find it more to their advantage to build a traffic bridge of their own and to abandon the project of joining with the National Transcontinental railway in the erection of a combined structure.

A conference on the subject was held yesterday, at which Ald. Egerton's committee talked it over with Chas. Young of the National Transcontinental railway commission and P. W. Morse on behalf of the C. P. R. Mayor Allan was present on behalf of St. Boniface.

Some time ago Mr. Morse agreed to have plans prepared and estimates made of the cost of a joint railway and traffic bridge. These have not yet been prepared, but it is expected that they will be ready in about a week. Progress enough has been made, however, to render it pretty certain that the cost of the kind of bridge the railway wants will be considerably higher than was anticipated when they advanced the idea of going into such a scheme.

\$247,000. This is for a bridge with a swing span and not so high above the water as the railway desires.

The offer of the railway, as presented by P. W. Morse, is that the municipalities shall pay the difference between the cost of a purely railway bridge and the cost of a joint railway and traffic bridge. The railway would thus be subjected to no extra expense, while the municipalities would get the free use of the piers and of a portion of the superstructure. Even with this advantage the character of the bridge required by the C. P. R. is such that Winnipeg and St. Boniface would have to pay much more than they expected.

## LEFT A FAREWELL LETTER

Winnipeg, Aug. 31.—Leaving a letter several pages in length which contained a few words to each of the fourteen occupants of his boarding house, but in which he made no allusion to the reason for taking his life John Barker, an Englishman, 30 years of age, yesterday afternoon drank a bottle of laudanum which caused his death four hours later. Barker was found by one of the housemates late in the afternoon stretched across his bed. When the man entered he noticed him to be asleep and made an attempt to wake him but soon found that he was unconscious. Dr. Booth was called in and Barker, whose body still retains a spark of life was taken to Dr. Booth's private hospital where he died an hour later. On the dresser in his room was a note addressed to Miss Hunter, his landlady. The contents of the letter she refused to make public but stated that he bid them goodbye, never mentioning the fact that the action which resulted in his death.

## Clever Robbers At Work

Calgary, Aug. 31.—We will be ready to start as soon after the franchise is signed as we can get material on the ground," said R. T. D. Atkinson, who returned to the city today to attend the meeting of the railway committee, which is to be held to-night to consider the question of granting a street railway franchise to the company.

Speaking of some of the points in connection with the proposal which he had made to the city, he said it was necessarily very brief, and questions such as the issuing of workmen's tickets and other minor matters had not been embodied. These matters involving freight and other objections would come up when the question was going into more fully.

Regarding the question of the franchise, he still very strongly favors the longer term, but possibly when he and the committee discuss the matter a change could be agreed upon. In connection with the numerous railways which this company manage and control, Mr. Atkinson says they have in most instances, leases for a long term.

This company which is proposing to put in the system here is composed of Montreal and Halifax capitalists. Known among eastern financial men

## China Is Waking Up

Peking, Aug. 31.—An issue was issued yesterday, setting forth in detail the steps that may be reached each year in the conversion of the form of government in China to the foreign grant, and assuring the people in the name of the emperor that a constitution will be granted in a year hence. An edict issued last year promised a constitution within a decade. Recently there has been a formidable movement in the provinces looking to the securing of a constitution, and provincial delegations which have come to Peking for the purpose of making inquiry into the matter have been treated with great respect by the members of the grand council. These delegations, also received from Yuan Shi Kai, a grand councillor, who is also a member of the board of foreign affairs, assurance that a constitution will be granted as promised. Recent events in Persia and Turkey have been cited by the members of the delegations, who declare that China should in no way be behind these countries.

## WEATHER STOPS EASTERN TRAINS

Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 31.—Not since Nov. 1, pulled into the city on Sunday morning has the C. P. R. brought a train in from the east. The train, which was the C. P. R. train, was stopped by a miniature cloud burst, washing out the track in several places. Officials held all trains at first as a precautionary measure, which later proved to be a necessary one. The C. P. R. eastern wires also went down in the small hours of Monday morning and although communication was partially restored during the day they again went out of business in the afternoon, telegraphic communications being only restored at midnight. No mails have reached Winnipeg from the east for two days.

Kenora Ont. Aug. 31.—As a result of the track being washed out at Deception, six boarding cars at that place were thrown into the ditch last night. No one was hurt. There are two big washouts at Scott cast of here and several smaller ones along the track, between here and Rennie. Every available man is working on the road bed.

## ABKS FOR ARBITRATION.

Toronto, Aug. 31.—The Intercolonial railway freight handlers and station clerks have formally called for a arbitration board, and the Dominion authorities are under the Lumber Act compelled to grant it.

## UNKNOWN FOUND DEAD.

Port William, Aug. 31.—Engineer Blackmore, in charge of No. 96, last night reported having seen the body of a man lying on the track at Lamartine, and subsequently the remains of an unknown man were brought here and buried this afternoon. There was turned in the clothes to give any clue to his name. The clothes were good and bore a Hamilton track mark. The hands were calloused as those of a man in the pockets were \$1.75 and an emerald ring was found on the left hand, and a watch.

## Canada's Trade Rebuilding Of Fernie

Ottawa, Aug. 29.—The Canadian trade Commissioner at London advises Canadian importers that upon the occasion of their first transaction with British and other houses that they should make a point of informing settlers of the existence of certificate regulations. Hardly a week passes but what they do not receive a visit from some shipper whose goods are being delayed by the absence of certified invoices required by the Canadian customs authorities.

There is a probability of Canada being given preference in the markets of the Leeward Islands. An effort is being made by the legislature to induce the different islands to agree to a rearrangement of the tariff to give a rearrangement of the scales of preferential duties.

## HE WASN'T RAFFLES.

Toronto, Aug. 30.—Charles Nelson, 35, a machinist, was arrested Saturday afternoon for pointing a revolver at W. L. Boudreau, of the Oldsmobile company. Nelson insisted that Mr. Stoneburg was Raffles, for whose identification the money is offered by a local newspaper. The event occurred as Mr. Stoneburg was stepping out of a theatre into his auto, when he insisted that he was not Raffles. Nelson drew a nickel-plated unloaded revolver. Then a police constable

## AROUND THE CITY

Mr. Palmer brought into our office this morning a fine ripe tomato grown in the open air.

Mr. A. L. Marks leaves tomorrow for Leduc where he is opening a law office.

Drive rheumatism from the blood with Dr. Shorr's Rheumatic Anodyne. Tablets or Liquid. All dealers.

Mr. Palmer, the road foreman, returned from the coast on Sunday night after a fortnight's absence. He visited Vancouver, North Vancouver, and Belinghamp, Washington. He found business pretty good in all these cities, but no crops like the Alberta crops. The labor market was not very good, quite a number of men being out of work. Mr. Palmer had good weather most of the time. Although impressed by the mountain scenery on the journey, Mr. Palmer thought the huge fields of ripe grain in this province the finest sight he had seen. Mr. Palmer visited a doctor whom he had not seen for twenty-one years.

## JUDGE APPOINTED.

Ottawa, Aug. 31.—Saturday's cabinet meeting passed an order-in-council appointing D. Monet, former M.P., for Nanaimo, judge of the new district, in place of the late Judge Paradis.

## BLAZE AT NIAGARA.

Niagara Falls, Aug. 31.—Fire in the Garner block this morning did damage to the extent of about \$10,000 to the premises of the Niagara club and the post office and Garner Bros' hardware store.

## Two Edmonton men with a wagon and team did some reckless driving on Whyte Avenue whilst under the influence of liquor yesterday afternoon. After they had almost run over two or three people an unsuccessful attempt was made by some civilians to capture them. Constables Sharkey and Turnbull then appeared and arrested them and took them to the police station. Here one of them assaulted Sharkey. This morning before mag- istrate Downes the pugilistic gentle- man was fined \$7.50 for furious driving and \$7.00 for assault. His companion was fined \$7.50 for fur- ious driving. They did not possess the ready cash and they were given until five o'clock this evening to pay, the wagon and team being held as security. If the money is not forthcoming they will go to jail.

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## LABOR STATICS

Ottawa, Aug. 31.—The labor department statistics show that during July industrial accidents happened to 287 persons, being 20 in the preceding year, and 191 resulted in serious injuries.

During July there were fewer trade disputes than in June or July of the preceding year, being 10 as against fourteen in June and 30 in the preceding year. Seventy-five men and 1,394 individuals were affected. Definite statements were regarded in seven cases. The number of working days lost was 21,000 as compared with 81,000 in July, 1907.

## AT WORK AGAIN

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Aug. 31.—It is announced that the site rails here will be re-opened tomorrow with enough work in sight to keep the force of 1,500 men at work for many months. Big orders have been received from the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk Pacific.

## KILLED BY PITCHED BALL.

Chicago, Aug. 31.—Morgan C. Cunningham, 18 years old, while playing a baseball game between the teams of employees of two west side business houses at West Side park, was struck over the heart with a pitched ball and instantly killed.

Several hundred persons witnessed the tragedy, which occurred after the game had been played through nine innings to a tie.





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## MR. AMES INDICTMENT OF INTERIOR DEPT.

The Prince Albert Deal.

The brother-in-law of the ex-Minister of the Interior was not content to secure limits for himself but he found it profitable to lend his influence for a consideration. No better illustration of this can be given than to repeat the story of the Prince Albert deal, which discloses at the same time a betrayal of public trust without parallel even among these remarkable transactions.

This is the history of the Big River Lumber Company and of its satellite, the Fraser-Munro combination. On the 17th of January, 1903, Messrs. Urquhart, Richards & Pattison, real estate agents, of Winnipeg and St. Paul, wrote to the department, "On behalf of a syndicate of American financial men," making application for fifty blocks of timber of ten miles each at the headwaters of the Churchill river, indicating a selection area of 7,000 square miles, the southern corner of which would come within twenty-five miles of Prince Albert. It was a most unprecedented demand. The quantity of timber land and the area of selection were very much greater than was ordinarily applied for. The department, however, appear to have had no hesitation in granting the request. Within less than a fortnight after receipt of this application, the advertisement was issued calling for bids.

Magnitude of the Proposition. It is difficult to realize the magnitude of this proposition: Fifty blocks averaging ten miles each, to be selected within an area of 7,000 square miles in extent. This means a strip of continuous woodland four miles wide stretching as far as from Montreal to Ottawa, selected from an area ten miles in length by seventy miles wide. To secure this meant to possess a monopoly of Prince Albert's vast timber reserves.

Time of the proposition. Much longer time has frequently been granted to explore for smaller limits. It was advertised once in the Manitoba Free Press and once in the Prince Albert Advocate. The advertisements left Ottawa the 26th January and bids were to be back in Ottawa by the 7th of March. This meant thirty-eight days from Ottawa to Ottawa. It allowed less than one month for the lumber men of Prince Albert, after learning of the proposal, to explore and bid.

Block of Protests. No sooner did the news reach Prince Albert than there were protests galore. This enterprising northern town of Prince Albert, is the centre of the saw mill industry for western Saskatchewan. There are a number of lumber manufacturers at this point whose future supply it was realized was being threatened. The Board of Trade held a meeting and passed a strong condemnatory resolution. The mayor of Prince Albert also protested, forwarding to the Hon. Clifford the following telegram: "People of Prince Albert protest against sale of timber lands north of river timber limits passing into hands of speculators to the detriment of settlers." (Signed) J. F. Ansell, Mayor. The objections of these practical men were well founded: "The area tendered for is too large," few have sufficient capital for so large a block; "we protest against limits passing into the hands of speculators to the detriment of settlers;" "we ask that the time for receiving tenders be extended for six months to enable lumbermen to raise limits for themselves." Such were the reasonable demands of the people best acquainted with the facts of the case. "For this area, 25 1/2 smaller blocks, and grant us longer time," said they, "and we will tender." To all this Mr. Tullis made curt reply: "It is not thought advisable to make any change."

"No Competition." And so the bids were opened on the 7th March, 1903. There was no competition worthy the name. The

Prince Albert operators, deterred by the prospects of a large bonus being required, made no effort to bid. A. W. Fraser, K.C., of Ottawa, president of the Ottawa Liberal Club, using the name of Wm. Cogan, but acting on the instructions of T. A. Burrows, this latter gentleman likewise being an unidentified manager's cheque exchanged for his own, put in a bid of \$5,000 for first choice (1,049), and likewise, writing a letter under the borrowed name of John McElin, put in another bid of \$1,000 for (1,049) the second choice. So the whole 500 square miles, as was expected and from the first intimated, were knocked down to the Ottawa lawyer and to those whom he represented for the insignificant sum of \$6,000. When it is recalled to mind that during the two previous years the average bonus obtained by the department had been \$150 per square mile, it will be seen how preposterous it was to let this vast area go for only \$12 per mile. Two cents per acre for selected spruce covered timber land was the bonus price accepted by this government.

Barrows unloaded. Now these limits Nos. 1048 and 1049, though the former purported to be held by the Big River Lumber Company and the latter by lawyer A. W. Fraser, were really acquired by Burrows and his associates. Before the limit was explored, before the blocks were selected, Burrows sold his half interest in the Big River Lumber Company and Fraser's interest in the J. McElin lease for \$8,000, which sum he has been paid by the purchasers in cash. In a previous debate it was used by William Cowan, of Prince Albert, that this limit had been sold by Albert, and much political capital was made by pointing out that Mr. Cowan was a Conservative. Had Mr. Cowan, however, asked for this limit for himself, the operation of Burrows, et al., was the force

(Continued on page 4)

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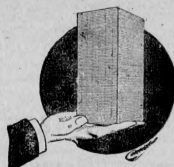
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